

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF IMPORTANT EVENTS.

Month of May Most Conspicuous by Its List of Appalling Disasters and Natural Catastrophes by Land and Sea—Record of Fires and Crimes.

A Backward Glance.
Following is a chronological record of the most important events of the past twelve months: May, 1896, will be remembered as a month of disaster. On the 3d twelve persons were killed by an explosion in Cincinnati; on the 15th, 120 by a cyclone in Texas; on the 17th, 33 by cyclones in Kentucky and Kansas; on the 18th, 44 by a cyclone in Nebraska; on the 21st, 10 by a cyclone in Oklahoma; on the 22d, 5 by a cyclone in Missouri; on the 24th, 40 by a cyclone in Iowa; on the 25th, 86 by cyclones in Michigan and Oklahoma and 40 by a cloudburst at McGregor, Iowa; and on the 26th, 12 by a storm at Cairo and between 75 and 100 by the fall of a bridge at Victoria, B. C. Otherwise the record is not out of the ordinary.

January.
1. President James V. Buchanan commission. ... British ship Jeanette ... wrecked on Vancouver island; 12 men perish.
2. Six members of Hibbard family die by fire at Columbus, Ohio. ... Four killed, 32 hurt, by exploding fireworks at St. Louis, Mo.
3. ... British force under Dr. Jameson attempts seizure of territory in Transvaal, South Africa, and is out to pieces and captured by Boers; British Government disavows his invasion. ... Earthquake in Persia destroys village of Jandabad and kills 300 people.
4. Cubans invest the city of Havana. ... United States insists on indemnity from Turkey for plundered missions. ... Six killed in a wreck near Chillicothe, Ohio. ... Utah a State.
5. Carlsbad opens \$100,000 popular loan of gold and kills 800 people.
6. Report that Mexico is fallen; not confirmed. ... Four miners killed in a Shamokin, Pa., shaft. ... Tremendous prairie fires in Western Kansas.
7. War fever high in England. ... Transvaal demands independence and indemnity for Jameson's raid. ... Report of alliance of Germany, France and Russia against England to sustain the Boers.
8. Peter Hougard, of Chicago, kills his wife, five children and himself by asphyxiation.
9. Sultan forbids Red Cross Society to enter his domains.
10. Foraker chosen Senator from Ohio.
11. Government victorious in Manitoba election. ... Fighting about Havana.
12. Allison chosen Senator from Iowa. ... Bond syndicate dissolves; popular loan assured.
13. Chicago gets Chicago National Democratic Convention.
14. Announcement of Harrison-Dimmock engagement. ... Camps relieved of Spanish command in Cuba. ... Death of Frank Lawler, of Chicago.
15. Five firemen killed by falling walls at St. Louis; three people killed by gas explosion at New Haven, Conn.; two at New York. ... Death of Gen. Tom Ewing at New York. ... Red Cross delegation starts for Turkey.
16. American liner St. Paul ashore at Long Branch.
17. Cuban filibustering steamer Hawkins sinks; 35 lost.
18. Fifty-four Welsh miners killed by explosion. ... Feud at Pailon, Iowa, ends in two deaths.
19. Five killed, 20 hurt, by exploding boiler at Holidayburg, Pa.
20. Salisbury concedes justice of Monroe doctrine and declares England's inability to suppress Armenian outrages. ... Murder of Pearl Bryan at Fort Thomas, Ky.

February.
1. Senate passes silver bond bill.
2. \$2,000,000 fire loss in Philadelphia. ... Tremendous snowstorm in Northwest.
3. ... Richard ... killed his father, mother, wife, three children and himself at Chicago; despondent. ... Bond bids aggregate \$568,000,000, at a figure exceeding 110.
4. Three killed in Polish-Hungarian riot at Whiting, Ind. ... Terrible storm sweeps Atlantic coast; Morristown, N. J., inundated by bursting dam; Round Brook wiped out by flood and fire; many lives lost; immense property destroyed. ... Bridge near Bristol, Conn., swept away, drowning eleven workmen.
5. Death of W. H. English at Indianapolis.
6. Publisher Dunlop, of Chicago Dispatch, sentenced to two years and to pay \$2,000 for circulating obscene matter.
7. Ten sailors drowned off Newburyport, Mass.
8. Grant Atterbury lynched at Sullivan, Ill.
9. Twenty die in a factory fire at Troy, N. Y.
10. Sixty miners killed at Newcastle, Colo. ... Rain of mud in Chicago.
11. Bill Nye stricken by paralytic stroke. ... Mercury below zero all day at Chicago; three die of exposure. ... Clothing cutters at Chicago strike. ... Dynamite at Johannesburg, South Africa, kills scores; fire at a masked ball in Lisbon, Portugal, kills fifty attendants.
12. Fitzsimmons whips Maher in 1 minute 35 seconds. ... Commander at Mrs. Ballington Booth removed from command of Salvation Army in America.
13. Death of "Bill" Nye.
14. Ballington Booth revolts against his retirement in Salvation Army. ... Seven people die in a Baltimore fire.
15. New York Yacht Club expels Lord Dunraven.
16. Senate passes resolution to recognize Cuba.
17. \$1,000,000 fire in Halifax. ... Riots in Barcelona, Spain, upon receipt of news of action of Congress; American consulate attacked.

March.
1. Great floods in New England.
2. ... Rome in a rage because of slaughter of 3,000 Italian soldiers in battle in Abyssinia.
3. Renewed anti-American demonstration in Madrid. ... All Italy in an uproar over Abyssinian defeat. ... \$200,000 fire at Johnston, Pa.
4. Albert Wallace hanged at Pekin, Ill.
5. Frankfort, Ky., under martial law.
6. Five killed by powder explosion at Ripton, N. Y.
7. Thirteen miners killed at Dubois, Pa., by explosion. ... Death of Thomas Hughes, author, at London. ... Riot at Hopedale, Mich., over horsewhipping of a sensational newspaper correspondent.
8. \$400,000 fire at Louisville, Ky. ... Illinois Supreme Court confirms imprisonment sentence of Bankers Meadowcroft.
9. Unknown man kills Alvin M. Stone and wife, and wounds three daughters, near Akron, Ohio; cause unknown. ... Four die by fire in New York.
10. Storm in the Northwest. ... Report of execution by garrotting of Cubans at Havana. ... Opening of lake navigation.

April.
1. Ten die by fire in a Brooklyn tenement. ... Trains on B. & O. and Frisco roads held up. ... Cubans capture Santa Clara.
2. Wedding of Gen. Harrison and Mrs. Dimmock.
3. Chicago elections retire 21 boodle aldermen.
4. S. B. Mitchell kills W. B. O. Sands, his own wife and three children, and himself at Pentwater, Mich.
5. Six killed by falling trestle at Bedford, Ind. ... Congress in session. ... Fitzhugh Lee Consul General to Cuba. ... Greater New York bill vetoed. ... Democrats observe Jefferson Day.
6. J. W. Lehman, of Chicago, kills himself and three children. ... \$1,000,000 fire at New York. ... \$250,000 fire at Fairbury, Ill.
7. First fatal sunstroke of the year at Philadelphia. ... Phenomenal hot wave prevails.
8. Base-ball season opens. ... Temperature reaches 88 degrees at Chicago, breaking all records for April.
9. Nine sailors drowned off Long Island.
10. At Rockville, Ind., Albert Egbert kills five people without cause, and commits suicide; his sick sister dies from shock. ... \$1,000,000 incendiary fire loss at Cripple Creek, Colo. ... Ten killed and twenty hurt in Kansas, and three killed in Virginia, by cyclones.
11. Fatal storms in South Dakota. ... Boers pass sentence of death upon leaders of the

Transvaal insurrection; President Krueger commutes sentence.
20. Second fire at Cripple Creek, Colo., does \$1,500,000 damage and wipes out the town.

May.
3. Fearful loss of life by explosion of a gas generator at Cincinnati; nearly fifty hurt.
4. Street car strike in Milwaukee.
5. Cleveland's sweeping civil service order protects 30,000 office-holders.
6. Many points record temperature of 90 degrees.
7. L'Anse, Mich., has \$750,000 fire. ... Ashland, Wis., loses half a million by fire. ... Continued excessive heat.
8. Eleven killed by explosion of boiler of rafting steamer Harry Brown, at Vicksburg, Miss.
9. Bold bank robbery at Buffalo, N. Y. ... Methodists at Chicago. ... Cyclone in Texas retire Bishops Foster and Bowman.
10. Eighty killed by cyclone at Sherman, Texas.
11. Great loss of life and property by cyclones in Kansas. ... Five sailors drown off Grosse Point, Ill. ... Blue Island, Ill., fire swept. ... \$300,000 fire at Atlanta, Ga.
12. Nebraska cyclone kills 44.
13. Oklahoma cyclone kills ten.
14. Missouri cyclone kills five.
15. Four of Otto Main's family die by gas in Chicago. ... Cyclone in Iowa and Jasper Counties, Iowa, kills a score of people and does tremendous damage; Chicago and suburbs also suffer.
16. 100 killed by cyclone in Michigan. ... Forty die at McGregor, Iowa, in a cloudburst.
17. One hundred killed in street-car disaster at Victoria, B. C. ... James Dunlop, murderer six people at San Jose, Cal. ... Czar of Russia crowned. ... Cairo, Ill., storm kills twelve.
18. St. Louis, East St. Louis and several Missouri towns swept by one of the most destructive cyclones in the world's history; 1,000 reported dead.
19. Two thousand Russians killed in a panic at Moscow. ... Eighteen people die in a cyclone at Seneca, Mo.

June.
1. Anarchist bomb in Barcelona kills 7 and wounds 4.
2. Death of ex-Gov. Felch of Michigan.
3. Earthquake in Japan kills thousands. ... Republican convention in St. Louis. ... Gunner Drummond and 240 lives lost off France.
4. Ten thousand lives lost by earthquake and tidal wave in Japan. ... McKinley nominated at St. Louis. ... Silver mine bolt the convention. ... Ten killed by exploding yacht boiler at Little Falls, N. Y.
5. Five killed by collapsing building at San Francisco. ... Death of B. H. Bristow, ex-Secretary of the Treasury, at New York.
6. One hundred miners buried at Pittsburg, Pa. ... Six drown in Shawano Lake, Wis.

July.
1. Death of Harriet Beecher Stowe.
2. Democratic convention at Chicago.
3. Yale beaten at Henley.
4. Chicago convention nominates Bryan.
5. Twenty-eight killed in wreck at Logan, Iowa. ... \$1,750 hold-up at noon in Chicago. ... \$300,000 fire at Nashville, Tenn.
6. Five killed in wreck at Chicago. ... Four die at Lawrence, Kan.
7. Half million fire loss at St. Louis. ... Intense heat at Chicago.
8. Hot wave sweeps the country; 94 die.
9. Temperature drops 36 degrees at Chicago. ... Twenty-eight drowned at Cleveland, Ohio.
10. Three lives and half a million in property lost by fire at Chicago car barns. ... Malvern, Ark., razed by incendiary fire.
11. Twenty-six drowned by cloudburst in Pennsylvania. ... Serious floods in Ohio and Pennsylvania.
12. Populists at St. Louis nominate Bryan and Watson.
13. Eleven die in a Pennsylvania cloudburst, near Pittsburg.
14. Indiana gas belt swept by floods; three killed at Anderson.
15. Fifty killed in railroad wreck at Jersey City, N. J.

August.
1. Failure of Moore Bros., Chicago, Diamond Match brokers, for \$4,000,000. ... Phenomenal heat in Western, Central and Middle States.
2. Confineance of killing heat. ... Conference of National Democratic party at Indianapolis.
3. Furious heat increases; 72 deaths from sunstroke in New York and Brooklyn; 19 at Chicago; similar reports from all quarters. ... Seven killed by trolley accident at Columbus, Ohio.
4. One hundred and eighty people die of heat in New York and Brooklyn; 60 at Chicago. ... St. Louis.
5. Cool wave. ... Thirty die in a Pennsylvania cloudburst. ... Seven killed by boiler explosion near Alliance, Ohio.
6. Undertakers and caterers in New York overwhelmed with business; hundreds of funerals postponed; heat the cause.
7. Death of Abigail Dodge (Gall) Hamilton at Hingham, Mass.
8. Whitney-Vanderbilt wedding. ... Ontonagon, Mich., destroyed by fire. ... National Democratic State Convention of Illinois nominates John C. Black for Governor.

September.
1. Twelve killed by powder-house explosion at San Francisco.
2. Gold Democrats at Indianapolis nominate Palmer and Buckner. ... Slight frost in Northwest.
3. Eleven firemen killed at Benton Harbor, Mich. ... Two men lynched at Glencoe, Minn.
4. Six of a coaching party killed near Warsaw, Ind. ... Family of four killed at crossing at Oshkosh, Wis.
5. Tremendous storm in the East. ... British troops capture Dongola and rout dervishes in Egypt. ... Riot in Leadville; four killed.
6. Mount Holyoke College burns at South Hadley, Mass.
7. Many Southern cities wrecked by storm; great fire and property loss in Florida, Georgia and Pennsylvania.

October.
1. S. Iowa semi-centennial jubilee.
2. Death of Du Maurier, the novelist.
3. Chicago Day celebration.
4. Two bank robbers killed at Sherburne, Minn.
5. Meeker, Col., citizens kill three bank robbers, and hold a celebration over it.
6. Flight of W. T. Rumbach, from Johnston, N. D., after embezzling over \$200,000 during long term of years.
7. First snow in Northern Wisconsin.
8. First snow in Chicago. ... \$150,000 fire at Holland, Mich.
9. Death of Henry E. Abbey, theatrical manager, at New York.
10. Eight killed, 20 hurt, in wreck at St. Louis. ... Six drown while boating at Denver.
11. \$1,200,000 elevator fire at Chicago.
12. Mercury at Chicago reaches 78 degrees. ... Cyclones in the South and Oklahoma.

November.
1. McKinley elected President.
2. Storm of sleet and snow in Northwest and Middle States.
3. Schooner Waukesha and six men lost off Muskegon, Mich.
4. Mercury registered 70 degrees at Chicago.
5. Death of Mrs. Siddons at Paris.
6. Death of Campanini, the tenor, at Parma, Italy. ... Mabley & Co., Detroit, fail.
7. Worst November blizzard ever known in N. D.; crops ruined and much stock killed. ... Apparently authentic report of Weyler's rout in Cuba, with loss of 3,000 men.
8. 28, 29, 30. Continued severe cold in West and North.

December.
1. 2, 3, 4. Alarming ice gorge in Chippewa Valley, Wisconsin.
2. Strong indications that Cuban insurgents will be successful; Weyler fails in his campaign in Pinar del Rio. ... Five killed in collision at Waukegan, Texas.
3. Congress in session. ... Reported death of Maceo, the Cuban insurgent general.
4. Loss of North German Lloyd steamer Sailer with 275 people, off Spain.
5. Collapsing building at Jones, Spain, kills 100. ... Mine disaster at Hodges, Cal., kills eight.
6. Tremendous snowstorm at New York City, accompanied by extreme cold; three people perish. ... Chicago has mild temperature; no snow, and sunny skies. ... Wide-spread agitation looking toward aid of Cuban insurgents.
7. England shaken by an earthquake. ... \$500,000 fire at Pittsburg. ... Death of Hermann, the magician.
8. National Bank of Illinois at Chicago closes.
9. Three banks dragged down by Illinois National. ... Two St. Paul banks fail. ... Cash at Chicago reaches \$800 after three months of almost uninterrupted advance, and market continues strong.

SENATE AND HOUSE.

WORK OF OUR NATIONAL LAW-MAKERS.

A Week's Proceedings in the Halls of Congress—Important Measures Discussed and Acted Upon—An Impartial Resume of the Business.

The National Solons.
The Senate Thursday passed the immigration bill known as the Lodge bill, with a new section providing that the exclusion shall not apply to persons arriving from Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there. As passed, the bill amends the immigration laws so as to exclude from admission to the United States all persons over 16 years of age who cannot read and write the language of their native country or some other language, but an admissible immigrant, over the age of 16, may bring in with him, or send for, his wife or parent or grandparent or minor child or grandchild, notwithstanding the inability to read and write. The House passed the third of the regular appropriation bills, that for the support of the army, and entered upon the consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial bill. The army bill as passed makes no provision for the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark. The House also passed several bills relating to the District of Columbia and three resolutions for the use of flags of the war department, government reservations, etc., on the occasion of Mr. McKinley's inauguration.

Friday was private bill day in the House, but most of the session was devoted to the passage of the thirty-seven pension and relief bills favorably acted upon by the committee of the whole Friday. The bill to pay Flora A. Darling, the wife of a Confederate general, \$5,000 for Tennessee, and Louisiana bank notes taken from her in 1864 while under a flag of truce, which was attacked by Mr. Dalzell Friday, was laid on the table. Only five bills were favorably acted upon. One of them, a bill to refer a claim of Thomas B. Reed, a Pennsylvania soldier during the war, to an unpaid balance of salary to the Court of Claims created some merriment owing to the fact that his name was identical with that of the Speaker of the House. The other bills were to pay the officers and crews of the United States gunboat Kinco and Chocoma \$12,474 prize money; to pay William B. Isaacs & Co. \$16,987, the finding of the Court of Claims; to pay George McAlpin, the sutler of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, \$6,906 illegally collected from him; and to repay Mathias Pederson of Spring Valley, Wis., \$300 paid by him for a substitute during the war, Pederson not at that time being a citizen of the United States. The Senate did nothing of importance.

A report presenting additional views on the Cuban question was presented to the Senate Monday by Senator Morgan of Alabama, in behalf of himself and Senator Mills. It indorses Senator Cameron's views and discusses the action of the Committee on Foreign Relations in 1895, on the bill to facilitate the acquisition of the island of Cuba. The report reviews the alleged misgovernment of Cuba and messages by former Presidents on the subject, and then refers to President Cleveland's attitude, whose message, it affirms, is in corroboration of all former testimony on the subject. Debate was sharp and raucous. Mr. Vest offered a resolution to the effect that Congress, and not the President, is vested with so *αυτοκρατορικη εξουσια* of *αυτομ* belligerency of any insurgent people. Debate was stopped by Mr. Hale, upon a point of order. Mr. Hill introduced a resolution looking toward recognition of the Cubans as belligerents, and pledging neutrality of this government. No final action was taken. Nothing of importance was done by the House.

The attention of the Senate was unexpectedly diverted Tuesday from Cuba to the Pacific railroads. Soon after the session opened Mr. Pettigrew of South Dakota called up his resolution appropriating \$10,000,000 to take up the trust notes of the Pacific railroad. This opened the entire question and Mr. Morgan of Alabama followed with a bitter arraignment of the Pacific roads, charging them with fraud and crime on a gigantic scale. The speech lasted until shortly before 2 o'clock, when the morning hour expired, thus sending over the Cuban question until after the holidays. Further than this the session was uneventful. The House passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and then adjourned for the holiday recess. This is the first time in the history of Congress that the legislative bill has passed before the annual debate of the civil service law and, as usual, the attempt to strike out the provision for the commission was overwhelmingly defeated.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

Lots of men think they ought to get their wives' affection on credit.

Men who are at heart most romantic always pretend to the last not to be.

Pretty teeth are very often at the foundation of a girl's reputation for jollity.

There's such a thing as having too much regard for the feelings of the neighbors.

The velvet on the peach may be pretty to look at, but it sets your teeth on edge to touch it.

There are some women who never find occasion to bewail the passing of the days of chivalry.

When a man says that nobody cares whether he lives or dies, he isn't advertising himself very well.

When a woman tells you some gossip about another woman, she always begins by saying: "Isn't it awful how she has got herself talked about!"

When a woman gets an idea she must be economical she hunts around and finds an old skirt to rip up.

A man isn't likely to enjoy hearing his wife talk with a woman who remembers him when he was a boy.

There never was a woman who wasn't awfully conceited about the way she could love if she tried.

A man hurts himself more in his wife's estimation by being brutal to other people than he does by being brutal to her.

CHINESE ARE THRIFTY FELLOWS

Start in Business on Borrowed Capital and Always Repay the Loans.

"In some respects the much-abused Chinamen," said Hong Sing Long, one of the interpreters and general agents of the Chinese Six Companies, to a Star reporter, "are way in advance of the ordinary workingman, and particularly so in regard to their Ready Money Association."

Hong Sing Long spends most of his time in New York, though he visits Washington several times each year. He is an educated Chinaman and has had the advantage of several years at Harvard and besides has been graduated as a lawyer.

"With the exception of one, all of the Chinese laundry places in this city are the result of the Ready Money associations; that is, the money necessary to start them came from the Ready Money. The plan is not unlike the building associations, which I am told have quite a clientele here, and which were originally started in Philadelphia. The Chinese plan is to start Ready Money as often as a party of Chinese find they have any surplus money on hand, the idea being to keep the money moving along. It is the custom of the laundry boys, for Chinamen always speak of each other as boys, to gather about on Monday, that being their off day, and gossip. All who have spare money put it in a pool and authorize some one to keep it personally as a deposit in a bank. As soon as the pool gets any size the word goes out and it is sold to the largest bidder, if there is more than one applicant for it.

"As a general thing there is but one applicant and he gets it, at a rate of interest agreed upon. It starts him in business and in a few weeks he begins paying back. Now and then there is no demand for the money. It then goes to the cities where it is needed. Just now the Chinamen are starting laundries in a number of small towns of the South, and my errand here now is to get some of the Ready Money funds to be advanced for that purpose."

"Safe! Perfectly safe. The civilization of the Chinese is no new thing. It is 5,000 years old. They have found out that honesty is the best policy; not on account of the moral or religious question involved as you understand it, but on account of the business proposition involved. Honesty is best because it pays, as for many other reasons. In business dealings Chinese are very strict, much more strict than any other people.

"The Chinaman knows that if he borrows he must pay back, and that the consequences of not doing so are very serious, much more serious than it is with Americans or Europeans. He knows this before he gets the money and does not take it unless he means to pay back. The man who acts as secretary of the Ready Money is also the treasurer. He takes pretty good care to give a good account of his stewardship, and the Chinese Ready Money frequently close up in a week, though ordinarily they last longer. Each transaction is a separate one. A man may be a member of a dozen or have all of his money in one.

"The great advantage of the Ready Money is that it gives everyone who wants it money to open up business for himself whenever he sees the opportunity. There is no waiting—no security is needed except a promise to pay. The payment never fails, except for good reasons, such as accident or sickness. In fact, it does not pay to fail to pay, for it will cost more in the long run. When your civilization is 5,000 years old, you will know more than you do now, and will understand things that now seem to be wonderful in us."

Big Cotton Presses.

Of the many cotton presses which were in operation in New Orleans sixty years ago the two principal ones were the Levee cotton press and the Orleans cotton press. They were large and massive buildings, each occupying, like most of the others, a square of ground. The Levee cotton press was built in 1832 by a company bearing the same name at a cost of \$500,000, and was two stories high. It compressed some 200,000 bales of cotton a year. The Orleans press, also fronting on the river, occupied an area of 632 feet by 308, the building nearly covering the whole space. This press, which was begun in 1833 and completed in 1835, cost over \$753,000, compressed about 150,000 bales per annum, and could store 25,000 bales of cotton. Its immense length gave it a very imposing appearance from the river.

Alligators Twenty Feet Long.

Alligators were formerly one of the chief animal life tenants of Red River and the bayous of Louisiana, where, before steamboat navigation came to interrupt them, they could be seen by hundreds huddled together on the banks or massed on the floating or stationary logs—especially of Red River—waking the solitude of the forest with their bull-like bellowing. Their length was generally between eight and twelve feet, although they sometimes grew to be twenty feet long. Their hides were once used extensively for the making of shoes, but the leather, not proving of sufficiently close texture to keep water out, shoemaking from this material was abandoned.

Likes and Dislikes of Birds.

It is said that birds are nearly as sensitive in their likes and dislikes as dogs. Some people can never gain the friendship of a caged bird. A bird has to learn by experience that it is safe with a human being before it will respond to kind treatment.

No man ever disappeared that some one did not invent a woman story on him.



PAYABLE IN COIN.

The statement of James S. Cowdon, candidate for Congress in Virginia in the last election, that the 1878 law now declares for the free coinage of silver, upon a careful investigation of the laws bearing on this subject is found to be correct, as the reader may judge for himself on the following evidence: The law of Feb. 28, 1878, reads: "That there shall be coined, at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of four hundred and twelve and a half grains Troy of standard silver, as provided in the act of Jan. 18, 1837, on which shall be the devices and superscriptions provided by said act; which coins, together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States, of like weight and fineness, shall be a legal tender at their nominal value, for all debts and dues public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract."

The next sentence of the same act commences with the words: "And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized," then follows a description of the "purchase" of from two to four millions a month for the described coinage. Now, be it carefully noted, that in the repeal contained in the 1890 law of a part of this 1878 law, not a word in such repeal relates in any way to the above quoted sentence composing the second paragraph of this article, but relates solely and entirely to that part of the act contained in the purchase of the two to four millions per month, as may be seen in the following language quoted from the law of July 14, 1890:

"Section 6. That so much of the act of Feb. 28, 1878, entitled, 'An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character,' as requires the monthly purchase and coinage of the same into silver dollars of not less than two million dollars, nor more than four million dollars' worth of silver bullion, is hereby repealed."

This just quoted Section 6 is the only repeal by Congress of any part of the 1878 law; and on its face and in good law no other conclusion is possible than that the first sentence above quoted of the 1878 law yet remains in full force and operation. As may be noted the unreppealed part of the 1878 law above quoted is mandatory. The words say, "There shall be coined," leaving our executive officers no choice in the matter, which fact compels them to coin such dollars when people hand in silver bullion for the purpose, and, as the Executive is bound to execute the law, our bimetallic League should, consequently, at once, force the executive officers of this country to carry out the unreppealed provisions of this 1878 law, which do in effect and unequivocally restore the standard silver dollar that was repealed in 1873, and which are as good law in all respects as this 1873 repeal act. If the 1873 law was operative until 1878, then the 1878 law, in its unreppealed parts, is good law to-day, and our executive officers can be compelled in our courts to carry out this unreppealed 1878 law to its fullest extent and provisions.

Among these provisions is another unreppealed part referring to the issuance of silver certificates to the holders of standard silver dollars at their option, in exchange for said silver dollars. This is the only law that permits the issuance of such silver certificates. And the fact that the executive officers of our Government have always acted under and upon this part of the law, and have ever since 1878 and 1890 issued silver certificates, proves at once that it is considered good law to now put into force and operation all the unreppealed parts of the 1878 law.

Now as all our bonded and currency National indebtedness is payable in coin, not gold exclusively, there can hereafter be no legitimate excuse on the part of any executive or administrative officer to issue bonds to get coin, to pay any of these National debts so long as silver bullion can be had from our mines and elsewhere to be coined at 16 to 1 for the purpose, the usurers of Wall and Lombard streets to the contrary notwithstanding.—Philadelphia Item.

Our Foreign Relations.

The foreign relations of the United States will undoubtedly occupy much attention at Washington during the winter session. Cuba, Venezuela and Hawaii are the points of interest.

Add to these the Armenian and Turkish troubles, the high-handed conduct of British Colonial officials on our Northwestern frontier, the unsettled seal fishery claims and the new German port charges complication, and it can easily be seen that there are international questions enough to interest the diplomatic world. Most of them will probably settle themselves, or go over for the consideration of the incoming administration, but some must, and several may, press for earlier action and come upon the carpet with the new year.

The impression is very general that Major McKinley is favorable to the recognition, perhaps the annexation, of Cuba, and is also committed to the acquisition of Hawaii as a Territory of the United States. Both these proposals involve questions of race, and it is probably for that reason that the present administration has shrunk from handling them.

The uniting to the United States of either Cuba or Hawaii would bring to

us large non-Caucasian contingents of population, upon whom, under our Federal Constitution, the right of suffrage must be conferred equally with its enjoyment by whites. The negroes and mulattoes of Cuba and the Kaukas, Japanese and Chinese of Hawaii, would all become full-fledged citizens of the United States. Whether President McKinley will favor measures to bring about this parti-colored complexion for the American people remains to be seen. It is possible that the sympathy we all feel for the Cubans and the Hawaiians may not, after all, be further invoked than to carry out a scheme of protectorate or colonial connection.

Flings at Farmers.

One of the persistent policies of the goldite press is to "make fun" of the farmers. The leading so-called humorous publications are published in New York, and, of course, furnish their patrons with cartoons and jests which appeal to the Eastern ideas and to Eastern prejudices.

A broker who could not tell whether a field is better adapted to wheat or corn can bet on the price of grain next May; a speculator who could not improve the breed of cattle is an authority on the latest style in neckties; a clerk in a bucket shop who does not know whether pumpkins grow on bushes or in bunches like bananas is far too smart to bet on a shell game.

These men and all the class of which they are types think it is very funny to depict farmers as wearing long wisps on their chins and imagine it the height of humor to call them "jays" and clodhoppers.

One and all the idlers in the city firmly believe that the manufacturer of shoes is a nobler man than the one who breeds the steer, and are firmly convinced that the dealer in margins is a higher order of being than the one who furnishes food to a nation.

If one of the idlers in Gotham will sail out to Hell Gate some day and stick his finger in the water, and then if he will go back next week and look for the hole, he will have given an apt illustration of the importance of his class in the affairs of our national life and in a nation's prosperity.

Meanwhile, it would be wasting known historical truths to tell the kid-glove coterie that the farms have bred nearly all of the great soldiers, statesmen, jurists and men famous in American history. There is a little red school house on every hill. The dudes who think the farmer is a fool would have made fun of a certain rail-splitter. When the nation is in sore need of men who can do the work of the farm, find them on the farms. They are not the product of bucket shops nor made by dealing in margins.—Chicago Dispatch.

Tariff Taxation.

It is perfectly appropriate, and according to the eternal fitness of things, that the return of the Republicans to the control of the Government of the United States should at once involve questions as to the form, shape and amount of increased taxation. Having obtained at the polls what they construe as a popular approval of the robbery of the people of their silver currency, they now lose no time in preparing for the next step—the increase of taxation upon imports and the placing of additional duties on trade.

That we are to have a higher tariff, if the incoming administration can effect it, appears to be beyond doubt. The only thing left to conjecture is whether it shall be fashioned on the model of the Dingley bill, passed by the present House of Representatives at its last session, and modified in some way this winter so as to make it acceptable to certain Western Republican Senators, or whether an extra session will be called as soon as President McKinley gets his Cabinet around him, and, during next spring and summer, an elaborate, comprehensive and sweeping McKinley bill, as near as possible upon the lines of McKinley's last previous effort, be put through, and the American people be called upon to face once more the experiment so often tried since 1842, of a purely protective system.

The present outlook seems to favor the leaving of the tariff alone till after McKinley takes office. If so, there will be grand times in Washington all summer.—New York News.

Sound Advice to Republicans.

We regret that the Republican party could do nothing which would so much commend it to the people as to make an earnest effort to live within the present income. We are fresh from a campaign in which the fundamental principles not only of our government, but of the social order, were subjected to a searching investigation, and in which the charge was openly made that the American government had become simply the agent for the distribution of favors to the rich and powerful. Mr. McKinley could have no better guide than that good old democratic maxim: "Equal rights to all; exclusive privileges to none."—Indianapolis News.

Foresight of Speaker Reed.

By sitting down on the clamorers for an extra session Speaker Reed is again demonstrating that he has the bulk of the brains in the Republican party. The Speaker has sense enough to see that the business interests are tired of political and legislative turmoil and want a good rest.